

Application Serial No. 10/700,612
Reply to Office Action dated December 15, 2009
Response dated January 19, 2010

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-11, 13, and 14 remain pending in the Application, and claims 1, 2, 4-11, and 13 are allowed. Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,617,951 to Saidman et al. As noted in the Detailed Action, Saidman '951 qualifies as prior art only under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Applicants note that, at the time the invention was made, the present application and Saidman '951 were commonly owned or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same entity, namely, Nordson Corporation. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 14 be withdrawn in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §103(c).

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants believe this case is in condition for allowance and respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes any issue requires further discussion, the Examiner is respectfully asked to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the matter may be promptly resolved. The Examiner's prompt attention to this matter is appreciated.

Applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with this submission. However, if any fees are necessary to complete this communication, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3000.

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Respectfully submitted,

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